

to consider a revision of the bye-laws. The Society's Vice-President, Dr J. Muggleton took the chair.

Dr Muggleton showed the meeting the draft copy of the Society's proposed new bye-laws, compiled by the Treasurer, Mr A. J. Pickles. Copies of this draft had earlier been circulated to all members of the Society. The need for new bye-laws was explained and hinged on three major factors—changes in the law relating to charities, the Society's acquisition of the building at Dinton Pastures, and concern over the time it had taken for prospective members to join the Society.

A postal ballot was required under the Society's existing bye-laws, and in order that this could take place, no amendments to the proposal of adoption of the bye-laws could take place at this Special Meeting. However, the views of the audience were invited to be aired. Should changes be thought necessary, these could be tabled for another Special Meeting in the near future.

Mr R. Uffen asked Mr Pickles to explain the new Charities Act. Mr Pickles explained how the Charities Act, 1992, affected the running of the Society and how this was reflected in the new wording of the bye-laws. For instance, the new act made all members of the Council 'Trustees' in the eyes of the law.

Mr R. Hawkins asked why the Society should need to take powers to employ people and why it should need to insure Council members against liability. Mr Pickles explained that the Society had to take specific powers to run its activities, and consider future possibilities also.

The motion was then put to the meeting, proposed by Dr Muggleton: Do you agree with the revised edition of the bye-laws, yes or no? The motion was seconded by Mr Uffen. The meeting ballot was 13 in favour, 0 against. The result of the postal ballot was 62 in favour, 1 against. The motion was carried and the new bye-laws were adopted by the Society. The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

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## SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

**A colour variety of *Oedemera lurida* (Marsh.) (Coleoptera: Oedemeridae).**—On 25.viii.1993, I swept two specimens of *Oedemera lurida* from a ride edge in Tunstall Forest, Suffolk. One was the normal dark sage green colour, the other had one elytron mainly dark purple-blue from a distinct line about one-eighth from the base to the apex. The metallic green of *Oedemera* and many other beetles is a 'structural' colour, an artefact of submicroscopic shagreenation causing refraction of particular light wavelengths. One must suppose that some chemical and/or physiological effect has interfered with the frequency of the shagreen, and hence with the resulting colour.—R. A. Jones, 13 Bellwood Road, Nunhead, London SE15 3DE.

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***Chloroclysta siterata* (Hufn.) in north west Surrey.**—On 27.ix.1993 I had the first record for *Chloroclysta siterata* (Hufn.), the red-green carpet, for my garden in Thorpe/Virginia Water. A further five examples, all males, were noted up to the middle of October.

I know of no previous records for this insect in this area or in the nearby Windsor Forest complex, where extensive recording has taken place over the past 25 years.

Mr Graham Collins (pers. comm.) advises me that this moth has spread northward across Surrey over the past 2 years. Other records would be of interest to determine the degree and permanence of the range extension of this insect.—Peter Baker, Mount Vale, The Drive, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4BP.